

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A motorized conveyor roller for moving a conveyor medium, said motorized conveyor roller comprising a rotatable portion adapted to engage said conveyor medium intermediate a first and second non-rotatable hollow tube, each said non-rotatable hollow tube extending axially outward adjacent from said rotatable portion and wherein said non-rotatable hollow tubes have a diameter substantially the same as a diameter of said rotatable portion, said rotatable portion comprises a rotatable roller tube, including a motor for rotating said roller tube, and said hollow tubes have a radial end surface with said first and second hollow tubes axially disposed about a central shaft,

wherein, said central shaft comprises a rotatable shaft portion disposed between said first and second hollow tubes, and wherein said roller tube contacts and moves said conveyor medium and said first and second hollow tubes are spaced from said conveyor medium.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A motorized conveyor roller as claimed in claim [[6]] 1 further including first and second stationary shafts, said rotatable shaft portion disposed axially and

intermediate said first and second shafts wherein said first and second stationary shafts are fixedly secured to said first and second hollow tubes respectively.

8. (Original) A motorized conveyor roller as claimed in claim 7 wherein said rotatable shaft portion is carried by said motor.

9. (Original) A motorized conveyor roller as claimed in claim 8 wherein one end of said rotatable shaft portion presents a pinion for driving said rotatable roller tube.

10. (Currently amended) A motorized conveyor roller as claimed in claim 9 wherein each of said hollow tubes cover the ends of said rotatable portion, respectively so as to inhibit contacting said rotatable portion when said rotatable portion drives a conveyor ~~belt~~ medium.

11. (Previously presented) A motorized conveyor roller as claimed in claim 10 wherein each radial end surface is non-rotating.

12. (Original) A conveyor system as claimed in claim 11 wherein said stationary ends bar access to said rotatable roller tube when said stationary ends are accidentally contacted.

13. (Currently amended) A motorized conveyor roller for supporting and driving a conveyor medium comprising:

(a) a hollow drum defining a rotatable supporting surface having a cylindrical shape disposed between a first and second non-rotating hollow tube spaced axially outwardly from said rotatable support surface, said hollow tubes having an outer diameter substantially the same as a diameter of said rotatable supporting surface, wherein said outer diameter of said hollow drum drives said conveyor medium, and said outer diameter of said hollow tubes do not contact said conveyor medium;

(b) said first and second generally non-rotating hollow tubes co-axially secured to first and second spaced apart stationary shafts respectively, wherein each said hollow tube

includes a radial end for receiving said first and second spaced apart stationary shafts respectively, and said radial ends are stationary; and

(c) one end of each of said stationary shafts disposed internally of said hollow drum for carrying a driving means for rotating said hollow drum between said first and second spaced apart stationary shafts, wherein said hollow drum includes a rotating shaft co-axially disposed between said stationary shafts.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A motorized conveyor roller as claimed in claim [[16]] 13 wherein said hollow drum presents a first end flange and a second end flange; and roller bearing means disposed between said first and second end flanges and said first and second hollow tubes respectively.

18. (Previously presented) A motorized conveyor roller as claimed in claim 17 wherein said first and second hollow tubes are axially spaced from said first and second flanges.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting contact with a motorized rotatable conveyor roller driving a conveyor medium, said method comprising: by placing said motorized rotatable conveyor roller having a diameter and two opposite ends between a pair of opposed generally cylindrical non-rotatable hollow tubes extending axially and exteriorly from said motorized rotatable roller, where the diameter of said hollow tubes is are substantially the same as said diameter of said rotatable conveyor roller; and causing said rotatable conveyor roller to rotate

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such that, with said rotatable conveyor roller contacting the conveyor medium, said rotatable conveyor roller drives the conveyor medium, said first and second hollow tubes being spaced from said conveyor medium, yet configured to inhibit contact with said rotatable conveyor roller.

21. (Cancelled)